

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are pending for consideration. Applicants respectfully submit that no new matter has been introduced by this Preliminary Amendment.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request consideration and the timely allowance of all pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of the response, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

Dated: July 14, 2003

By: Donald L. Monin, Jr.
Donald L. Monin, Jr.
Reg. No. 47,256

Customer No.: 009626
MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP
1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004
Telephone: 202-739-3000
Facsimile: 202-739-3001